

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 CPR-02

M-03 A-01 SY-10 USSS-00 PER-05 /102 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 150690

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, SO, US

SUBJ: NEW ERA ARTICLE DEMARCHE

REF: MOGADISCIO 1113

1. IN JULY 27 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR ADDOU (REPORTED SEPTTEL), DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROSS EXPRESSED SERIOUS US CONCERN AND SURPRISE OVER PUBLICATION OF IBRAHIM KHATIB SPEECH IN NEW ERA (REFTTEL). ROSS NOTED THAT, WHILE US GREATLY APPRECIATED EXCELLENT SECURITY PROTECTION GSDR HAD PROVIDED EMBASSY PERSONNEL, IT CONCERNED THAT SOMEONE MIGHT INTERPRET NEW ERA ARTICLE AS INDICATING GSDR APPROVAL OF KHARTOUM CRIME. SUCH MISCONCEPTION COULD POSSIBLY LEAD TO VIOLENCE AGAINST US DIPLOMATS IN MOGADISCIO.

2. ADDOU STATED GSDR REJECTS USE OF VIOLENCE AND ASSURED ROSS ARTICLE NOT PUBLISHED AS ATTACK ON US. AMBASSADOR THEN DEFENDED "LITTLE PEOPLE" IN GOVERNMENT INFORMATION
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APPARATUS WHO SOMETIMES "TRICKED" INTO PUBLISHING FALSE

PROPAGANDA BY "CLEVER PALESTINIANS." ADDOU VOLUNTEERED TO PROPOSE TO GSDR THAT IT INVESTIGATE HOW THIS REGRET-TABLE ARTICLE CAME TO BE PUBLISHED AND ASSURED ROSS THAT GSDR HAD REPEATEDLY WARNED AL FATAH REPRESENTATIVES IN MOGADISCIO THAT IT WOULD PERMIT NO VIOLENCE THERE.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTED MAKE SIMILAR DEMARCHE TO APPROPRIATE HIGH-LEVEL GSDR OFFICIAL POINTING OUT:

A) POSSIBLE INFERENCE THAT GSDR SUPPORTS KHARTOUM-LIKE VIOLENCE AGAINST US DIPLOMATS;

B) DAMAGE TO US-SOMALI RELATIONS IF TERRORIST SHOULD HARM US OFFICIAL DUE TO MISREADING OF GSDR POLICY;

C) DEMARCHE HAS BEEN MADE TO AMBASSADOR ADDOU IN WASHINGTON;

D) US HOPES THAT NO FURTHER INFLAMMATORY ARTICLES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL SOMALI ORGANS IN FUTURE.
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